

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A luminaire adapted to illuminate a surface of a panel, comprising:
a lamp housing;
a lamp disposed within the lamp housing; and,
reflector means mounted within the lamp housing for directing light generated by the lamp onto the surface of the panel in an asymmetric distribution.
2. The luminaire of claim 1 and further comprising:
a refractor affixed to the lamp housing, the refractor cooperating with the reflector means to direct light from the lamp and the reflector means onto the surface of the panel, thereby resulting in increased uniformity of light on the surface and a reduction in the amount of light which misses the surface.
3. The luminaire of claim 1 wherein the lamp is vertically oriented within the lamp housing.
4. The luminaire of claim 3 wherein the reflector means comprises:
a main reflector having a curvilinear reflective surface; and,
a secondary reflector carried by the housing and mounted behind the lamp.

5. The luminaire of claim 4 wherein the reflective surfaces of the main reflector are parabolic in contour.

6. The luminaire of claim 4 wherein reflective surfaces of the secondary reflector are elliptical in contour.

7. The luminaire of claim 4 and further comprising a reflective side panel disposed along at least one lateral edge of the main reflector.

8. The luminaire of claim 7 wherein the reflective side panel has a high reflectance finish.

9. The luminaire of claim 8 wherein the lamp is disposed in proximity to the reflective side panel.

10. A luminaire adapted to illuminate a surface of a panel, comprising:
a lamp housing;
a lamp disposed within the lamp housing; and,
a reflector assembly mounted within the lamp housing, the reflector assembly comprising a main reflector having a curvilinear reflective surface and a secondary reflector carried by the housing and mounted behind the lamp.

11. The luminaire of claim 10 wherein the lamp is vertically oriented within the lamp housing.

12. The luminaire of claim 11 wherein the lamp is more closely spaced relative to one side of the housing, light generated by the lamp being directed onto the surface of the panel in an asymmetrical distribution.

13. The luminaire of claim 12 wherein the reflective surfaces of the main reflector are parabolic in contour.

14. The luminaire of claim 12 wherein the reflective surfaces of the secondary reflector are elliptical in contour.

15. The luminaire of claim 12 and further comprising a reflective side panel disposed along each lateral edge of the main reflector.

16. The luminaire of claim 15 wherein the reflective side panel disposed nearest the lamp has a high reflective finish.

17. The luminaire of claim 16 wherein the reflective side panel disposed opposite the panel nearest the lamp has either a high reflectance finish or a low reflectance finish.

18. The luminaire of claim 11 wherein the lamp is disposed within the lamp housing equidistantly from side edges of said luminaire, light generated by the lamp being directed onto the surface of the panel in a symmetric distribution.

19. The luminaire of claim 11 and further comprising:

a refractor affixed to the lamp housing, the refractor cooperating with the reflector assembly to direct light from the lamp and the reflector assembly onto the surface of the panel, thereby resulting in increased uniformity of light on the surface and a reduction in the amount of light which misses the surface.

20. A system for illuminating an outdoor sign of substantially rectangular dimensions and of a width-wise dimension requiring the use of multiple luminaires for illumination of end portions of the sign and a central portion of the sign, comprising;

a luminaire spaced from the sign and in opposing relation to a lower edge of the sign at each end of the sign, the luminaires each being formed of a housing, a lamp mounted within the housing and a reflector assembly mounted within the housing for reflecting light from the lamp and incident on the reflector to either a vertical surface of the sign or to other portions of the luminaire, the lamp of each of the luminaires being vertically disposed within each of said housings and located more closely spaced to an outward side of each of said luminaires, thereby to produce an asymmetrical distribution of light on the sign to uniformly illuminate the sign with minimal light spillage about edges of the sign.